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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of : **Confirmation No. 3184**  
Yoshio SEIKI et al. : Attorney Docket No. 2005-0316A  
Serial No. 10/525,971 : Group Art Unit 1764  
Filed September 27, 2005 :

SEPARATOR, REACTOR, AND METHOD  
FOR PRODUCING AROMATIC  
CARBOXYLIC ACIDS

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED  
TO CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY IN THE  
FEES FOR THIS PAPER TO DEPOSIT  
ACCOUNT NO. 28-0975

Sir:

Pursuant to the provisions of 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants request consideration of the references listed on attached form PTO-1449 and any additional information identified below in paragraph 3. A legible copy of each reference listed on the Form PTO-1449 is enclosed, except a copy is not provided for:

- ☒ each U.S. Patent and U.S. Patent application publication;
- ☐ each reference previously cited in the international application  
PCT/ \_\_\_\_\_; and/or
- ☐ each reference previously cited in prior parent application Serial No.  
\_\_\_\_\_.

1a. ☒ This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

within three months of the filing date (or of entry into the National Stage) of the above-entitled application, **or**

before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits or the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of an RCE,

**and thus no certification and/or fee is required.**

- 1b. ☐ This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted

after the events of above paragraph 1a and prior to the mailing date of a final Office Action or a Notice of Allowance or an action which otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and thus:

(1) ☐ the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, **or**

(2) ☐ the fee of \$180.00 specified in 37 CFR 1.17(p) is enclosed.

- 1c. ☐ This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

after the mailing date of a final Office Action or Notice of Allowance or action which otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and prior to payment of the issue fee, and thus:

**the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, and**

**the fee of \$180.00 specified in 37 CFR 1.17(p) is enclosed.**

2. It is hereby certified

a. ☐ that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement, or

b. ☐ that no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement.

3. ☐ Consideration of the following list of additional information (including any copending or abandoned U.S. application, prior uses and/or sales, etc.) is requested.

4. For each non-English language reference listed on the attached form PTO-1449, reference is made to:

- a. ☐ a full or partial English language translation submitted herewith,
- b. ☒ a foreign patent office search report (in the English language) submitted herewith,
- c. ☒ the concise explanation contained in the specification of the present application at page 2,
- d. ☒ the concise explanation set forth in the attached English language abstract,
- e. ☒ the concise explanation set forth below or on a separate sheet attached to the reference:
- US 4,562,285 corresponds to JP 53-84932  
US 5,409,579 corresponds to JP 7-53443  
US 5,492,625 corresponds to JP 8-40972
5. ☐ A foreign patent office search report citing one or more of the references is enclosed.
6. ☐ Statement Under 37 CFR 1.704(d)

Each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart application, and this communication was not received by any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than thirty days prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement.

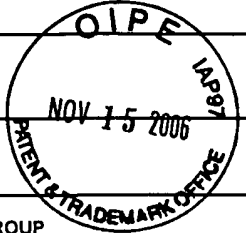
Respectfully submitted,

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November 15, 2006

Sheet 1 of 1		INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT					
FORM PTO 1449 (modified)  U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S) <i>(Use several sheets if necessary)</i>  Date Submitted to PTO: November 15, 2006				ATTY DOCKET NO. 2005-0316A		SERIAL NO. 10/525,971	
				APPLICANT Yoshio SEIKI et al.			
				FILING DATE September 27, 2005			
				GROUP 1764			
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	AA	4,562,285	12/1985	Hashizume et al.			
	AB	5,409,579	4/1995	Gualy et al.			
	AC	5,492,625	2/1996	Wytcherley et al.			
	AD	2004/0191139	9/2004	Numata et al.			
	AE	2004/0225148	11/2004	Isogai et al.			
	AF	2006/0014979	1/2006	Numata et al.			
	AG	2006/0151377	7/2006	Fujimoto et al.			
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES NO
	AH	60-202705	10/1985	JP			
	AI	1-155928	6/1989	JP			
	AJ	2-253802	10/1990	JP			
	AK	2001-328957	11/2001	JP			
	AL	96/06065	2/1996	WO			
	AM	02/50012	6/2002	WO			
	AN	53-84932	7/1978	JP			
	AO	7-53443	2/1995	JP			
	AP	8-40972	2/1996	JP			
	AQ	4-63119	2/1992	JP			abstract
OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)							
	AR						
EXAMINER					DATE CONSIDERED		

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.